the total amount outstanding under education loan in Uttaranchal was Rs. 53.53 crore in 3825 accounts as on the last reporting Friday of March 2005.

**Exemption of mega power projects from custom levies**

3248. SHRI JANARADHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'Mega Power Projects' are exempted from customs and Central excise levies;

(b) if so, the details with number of Central and State Governments' 'Mega Projects' enjoying such concessions, State-wise;

(c) whether State Government of Karnataka has requested to declare its 500 MW thermal station at Bellary as a 'Mega Project';

(d) if so, the details thereof and Centre's reaction thereto;

(e) whether Government have identified Tadri, Dist. Uttara Kannada, Karnataka, as one of the sites for development of five Ultra Mega Power Projects with 4000 MW and above capacity in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Mega Power Projects are fully exempt from customs duty, CVD and additional customs duty. If goods for Mega Power Projects are supplied against International Competitive Bidding (ICB), they are exempted from excise duty.

(b) State-wise statement showing projects certified as mega power projects is enclosed *(See* below).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per information provided by Ministry of Power, Government of Karnataka had requested Government of India to accord mega power projects status to its 500 MW power station at Bellary. As the said project did not meet the minimum threshold qualifying limit as provided in the mega power policy, which is 1000 MW in case of thermal power projects and 500 MW in case of hydel projects, Government was unable to accord mega power project status to the project.

(e) and (f) As per information provided by Ministry of Power, Tadri near Karwar in Uttar Kannada District of Karnataka has been identified, by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in consultation with Government of Karnataka, for development of an integrated coastal power project of 4000 MW with scope of expansion. Expression of Interest in respect of this project was invited on 10.3.2006 and some companies have submitted their papers. Before notification for request for locations in respect of the project, the State Government is to resolve issues related to availability of required land, feasibility of development of port in the area, etc.

***Statement***

*Projects-Certified Meaa Status*

| SI. No. | Project | Capacity (MW) | Location | Cost Estimates (Rs. crs) | Remarks |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| Orissa | | | | | |
| 1. | Talcher-ll@ (since oned) commissi | 4x500 | Distt. Angul, Orissa | 6648.83 (1997)$ | NTPC |
| Uttar Pradesh | | | | | |
| 2. | Rihand-ll@ (Partly Commissioned) | 2x500 | Distt. Sonebhadra, UP | 3451.97 (1998) | NTPC |
| Madhya Pradesh | | | | | |
| 3. | Vindhyachal-lll* | 2x500 | Distt. Sidhi, MP | 4201.50 (2001) | NTPC |
| Chhattisgarh | | | | | |
| 4. | Sipat-I* | 3x660 | Distt. Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh | 8323.39 (2003) | NTPC |
| 5. | Sipat-ll* | 2x500 | Distt. Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh | 4039.67 (2003) | NTPC |
| 6. | Raigarh TPP | 1000 | Chhattisgarh | 2412 | Private Sector |
| Bihar | | | | | |
| 7. | Kahalgaon-ll* Phase-I | 2x500 | Distt. Bhagalpur, Bihar | 4002.28 (2002) | NTPC |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8. | Kahalgaon-ll* Phase-ll 1x500 | | Distt. Bhagalpur Bihar | 1866.10 (2003) | NTPC |
| 9. | Barh* | 3x660 | Distt. .Patna, Bihar | 8692.97 (2004) | NTPC |
| Gujarat | | | | | |
| 10. | Jhanor Gandhar CCPP-II" | 1300 | Distt. Bharuch, Gujarat | 4371.39 (2004) | NTPC |
| 11. | KawasCCPP-ll" | 1300 | Distt. Surat, Gujarat | 3329.56 (2004) | NTPC |
| 12. | Akhakhol GBPP | 1000+ | Gujarat | 3256 | Private sector |
| Himachal Pradesh | | | | | |
| 13. | Koldam* | 800 | Distt. Bilaspur, HP | 4527.15 (2001) | NTPC |
| 14. | Parbati-ll | 4x200 | Himachal Pradesh | 3919.59 | NHPC |
| Jharkhand | | | | | |
| 15. | North Karanpura STPP" | 2000 | Jharkhand | 9477.75 (2005) | NTPC |
| 16. | Maithon TPP | 1000 | Jharkhand | 4200 (2003) | DVC |
| Sikkim | | | | | |
| 17. | Teesta-V | 3x170 | Sikkim | 2198.04 (1999) | NHPC |
| Arunachal Pradesh | | | | | |
| 18. | Nubansiri lower | 8x250 | Arunachal Pradesh | 6285.33 (2002) | NHPC |
| West Bengal | | | | | |
| 19. | Purulia Pump Storage Hydel Project | 900 | West Bengal | N.A. | State sector |

$ Accorded in-principle mega status;

* Completed projects;

** Projects under formulation.